



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION  
ACADEMIC IMPROVEMENT AND TEACHER QUALITY PROGRAMS

November 3, 2009

Christina Linder  
Idaho State Department of Education  
650 West State Street  
P.O. Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0027

Dear Ms. Linder:

On August 26, 2009, the Idaho State Department of Education (ISDE) submitted a response to the monitoring report that resulted from a program review conducted by the Academic Improvement and Teacher Quality Programs office of the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Elementary and Secondary Education. The program office team reviewed your State's progress in meeting the highly qualified teacher provisions of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and your State's administration of the ESEA Title II, Part A Improving Teacher Quality State Grants program. Thank you for sending this response to the monitoring report.

This response, in combination with additional information submitted on October 2, October 22, and October 26, 2009, satisfactorily addresses the findings identified in the monitoring report. In particular, the ISDE has agreed to put plans in place to properly determine the highly qualified status of all core academic subject teachers, including special education teachers, and to correct its highly qualified teacher data. The ISDE has also put in place plans to ensure that all teachers hired for Title I positions are highly qualified; plans to ensure that the State meets its obligations under Section 2141 of the ESEA; and plans to update its State plan for the equitable distribution of teachers. The Department will follow up with the ISDE to ensure that progress is being made on these issues and that all agreed upon deadlines are met.

During the State agency for higher education (SAHE) portion of the monitoring review, the program team determined that there were no findings and that all monitoring requirements had been met.

We commend your work in responding to the concerns raised by the monitoring report. We look forward to continuing to work with you and your staff to ensure that all teachers meet the highly qualified requirements and to help improve the delivery of ESEA Title II, Part A services in Idaho.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elizabeth A. Witt".

Elizabeth A. Witt  
Program Officer

cc: Allison McClintick

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